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Dear FCC, I live in a country and I also live in the country, check the address, where intelligent choice in radio, until recently, was more than a joke, it was virtually non-existent. If a person wants cookie cutter radio with, most of the time, poor reception, then standard radio is the way to go. However, an alternative has come along that offers everything that I am looking for and more in radio. Programming that is beyond compare. It has variety, thoughtfulness, intelligence and most of all sound that is unlike any that exists in standard broadcast format. Digital quality sound 24/7. Music sounding as it was meant to. Not clipped at the upper frequencies as in FM. AM radio has gone by the wayside except for news and talk and FM is so highly overrated. Why, even in strong reception areas signal strength wanders regularly.

XM Satellite radio is the superlative choice in radio. I signed up to subscribe almost a year ago with one radio and tuner in my car. I now have 4 XM units. One in each of our three cars and a unit in the home. In case you missed the point, I am a fan of XM Satellite radio and all that it has to offer. If you have never listened to XM, tune in. You'll never go back.

I am annoyed at the idea of the NAB trying to lobby against XM in general and specifically to the newly added traffic and weather reports. What is up with that???? What are they afraid of? Is it that the public might become dissatisfied with the second rate product of standard broadcast that is getting a first rate sell job? This is another classic case of protectionism in the making. You, the FCC and Congress have allowed massive corporate centralizing of the radio industry. Sameness is running rampant. Now you are considering protecting this? Why?

Please understand that I am neither anti business or anti corporation. It just isn't working in the broadcast radio business. At least not for the listener.

We live in a country where competition, free choice and free enterprise are supposed to be the cornerstones of our economy. Enough of the bland already.

Cheers to XM for offering the additional new services of localized traffic and weather. I travel a lot and like to be able to tune into an XM channel and get up to the minute and accurate reports. It is important to me.

Please tell the NAB to grow up and quit whining. Tell them to get on with it and to get over it and improve their product. Let's not continue the dumbing down of yet another facet of society so that those who cannot or do not want to keep up can become the norm. Demand excellence and you will get it. Protect and foster mediocrity and you will get that and worse.

Look at the education system in our country. That is another issue, but it too has suffered greatly from the "dumbing down" and mediocrity syndrome.

Thanks very much

Regards

Tom McMillen

Avid fan of XM and choice